

CLAIMS:

1. A therapeutic composition for treating celiac disease or gluten sensitive condition comprising anti-gluten egg yolk antibodies.
2. The composition of claim 1 wherein the anti-gluten egg yolk antibodies comprises a polyclonal antibody capable of binding a component of gluten, wherein said component may comprise gliadin, high molecular glutenin (HMG), low molecular glutenin (LMG).
3. The composition of claim 2, wherein the polyclonal antibody is prepared by (a) immunizing an egg-laying fowl with one or more of gliadin, HMG, and LMG, (b) collecting eggs from the immunized fowl (c) preparing the composition from the egg yolk or IgY purified from the egg yolk.
4. The composition of claim 3 comprising an anti-gliadin antibody, an anti-HMG antibody, or an anti-LMG antibody, or mixtures thereof.
5. The composition of claim 1, comprising egg yolk comprising anti-gluten antibodies.
6. The composition of one of claims 1 – 5 wherein the antibody comprises an avian antibody.
7. The composition of claim 6 wherein the avian antibody comprises IgY.
8. The composition of claim 7 wherein the egg yolk is liquid or dried, and formed into an oral dosage form.
9. The composition of one of claims 1 – 8 which is a food product or beverage.
10. Use of egg yolk comprising anti-gluten antibodies in the preparation of a medicament or food product for the treatment or prevention of celiac disease or gluten sensitive condition.
11. Use of anti-gluten antibodies purified or partially purified from egg yolk in the preparation of a medicament or food product for the treatment or prevention of celiac disease or gluten sensitive condition.

12. A method of treating or ameliorating the symptoms of celiac disease or a gluten sensitive condition comprising the step of administering to a person in need thereof a pharmaceutical or nutraceutical composition or food product comprising egg yolk comprising anti-gluten antibodies.

13. A method of preventing gluten uptake in the digestive system of a person comprising the steps of administering to the person a pharmaceutical or nutraceutical composition or a food product comprising avian anti-gluten antibodies.